

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY

East Germany

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September 1953

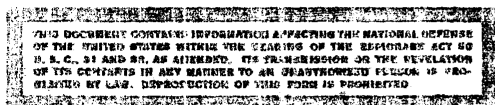
SUBJECT

Directives for SED Propaganda

NO. OF PAGES

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NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. In an effort to counter shocking effects upon the comrades by the communique on the meeting of the SED Politbureau of 9 June and in an attempt to restore his seriously damaged prestige, Walter Ulbricht, the SED Secretary General, issued directives which had to be made known to the various party actives in the morning on 11 June. The directives stated that important changes in the international situation, specifically the development in Korea and the apparent disassociation of Great Britain from the USA, for the promotion of which Soviet Cruiser Sverdlov was ordered to participate in the fleet review on the occasion of the coronation ceremonies, made it imperative to calm down the population. The directives said that the population had been excited by the measures taken during recent months which also gave the Bonn government occasion to institute reprisals against the KPD. The directives demanded that the agitators deny that the recent measures came as a volte-face or even as a declaration of bankruptcy and, instead, insist that they were evidence that the party was strong enough to criticize blunders even if made by the party or the government. The SED could afford to take radical action in the event of blunders and had no need to eliminate faults by steps and in silence as did the capitalists. The directive also stated that the low-level party agencies and administrative agencies were more to blame than the government and the Central Committee as they had misinterpreted and used the last laws and decrees in a manner which bordered on sabotage.
2. The directive demanded that emphasis be given to the program of the National Front, calling for the unity of Germany and a peace treaty, that the decisions of the Second Party Conference on the foundation of Socialism be omitted and that the resolution of the Third Party Convention on the Five-Year Plan be given emphasis. The directives stated that this plan, which, because of the strained international situation at that time, gave priority to the heavy industry, would soon be modified to improve the living standards of the population and make possible a better supply with consumer goods. The directive finally demanded that all party actives submit daily situation reports to the Central Committee no later than 2 p.m.

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